

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **H. 4833**

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TO:	The Honorable Daniel T. "Dan" Cooper, Chairperson, House Ways and Means Committee		
FROM:	Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board		
ANALYSTS:	R.J. Stein, Trey Kannaday		
DATE:	April 15, 2008	SBD:	2008168

AUTHOR:	Representative Cooper	PRIMARY CODE CITE:	59-10-400
SUBJECT:	Farm to School Program Act		

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

A Cost to the General Fund (See Below)

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:

\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

BILL SUMMARY:

House Bill 4833 amends Chapter 10 of Title 59 by adding Section 59-10-400 which establishes the "Farm to School" program administered by the Department of Agriculture. The purpose of the program is to foster a direct relationship between local farms and schools to provide schools with fresh foods for student consumption and to improve school nutrition programs using locally grown farm products. The Bill encourages the Department of Agriculture to consult with the Department of Health & Environmental Control, the Department of Education and non-profit food policy councils. The Bill encourages the Department of Agriculture to seek grants and private donations, and requires the Department to establish a Farm-to-School Program website.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

Department of Agriculture

The Department reports that this new program would cost approximately \$124,200 in the first year and \$99,200 each year thereafter. First year start-up costs include \$25,000 for website development and office equipment. The recurring costs include \$79,200 for 1.00 Program Director (salary and fringes), \$10,000 for operating expenses and \$10,000 for workshops, training and technical assistance. These General Fund costs could be reduced to the extent that the Department is able to obtain grants and private donations; however, the Department indicates that while federal grants might be available for specific projects it is not likely that funds would be available for program administration and general operating expenses.

Department of Health & Environmental Control and Department of Education

The Departments report that costs associated with the support of this program would be minimal and could be absorbed.

Approved by:



Harry Bell
Assistant Director, Office of State Budget